



HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE DUNCAN HUNTER – CHAIRMAN

PRESS RELEASE

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HUNTER SUPPORTS PRESIDENT BUSH ON OMAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

President Needs Support during Current International Crisis

Washington, D.C. --- In a show of support for President Bush during the escalating crisis in the Middle East, U.S. House Armed Services Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter (R-CA) today voted in favor of the United States-Oman Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.

As a strong opponent of free trade, Chairman Hunter issued the following statement:

“Handing President Bush a defeat on the Oman Free Trade Agreement at this moment would hurt his efforts in the Middle East. Given the current international crisis, President Bush needs our support.

“Today’s vote in no way reflects any softening of my position to so-called free trade policies. I urge my colleagues not to anticipate any change in my position.

“My only similar vote was in favor of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2001, held at a time when the President needed a strengthened position of support for our operations in Afghanistan. My vote on this agreement is made in the same manner.”

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